What is claimed:

1. A method of identifying a wound care protocol for a given wound or wound prevention protocol appropriate for a given patient comprising:

classifying the wound or patient against a defined scale for a first wound factor,

5 which is defined wound assessment factor or defined wound risk assessment factor to obtain a wound classification;

grading the wound or patient against defined scales for one or more second wound factors, which are wound assessment factors or wound risk assessment factors; and

10 operating a visual decision tree device to show a decision or visual decision tree corresponding to the wound classification or to a scale for a wound assessment factor, wherein the visual decision tree device identifies at least one component of a treatment protocol for the graded wound factors.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the visual decision tree is a mechanical device.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one visual decision tree indicates two or more distinct decisions based on the grade of one or more second wound factors.

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4. A method of claim 1 of identifying a wound care protocol appropriate for a given wound comprising:

classifying the wound against a defined wound classification scheme;

grading the wound against defined scales for one or more second wound

25 assessment factors; and

operating visual decision tree device to show a decision or visual decision tree corresponding to the wound classification or to a grade for a wound assessment factor, wherein at least one visual decision tree produced by the device dictates two or more distinct decisions based on the grade of one or more second wound assessment factors,

30 and wherein the visual decision device identifies a treatment protocol for the wound classification and grades of the second wound assessment factors.

5.   The method of claim 4, wherein one of the two visual decision tree devices is selected based on wound classification, and the selected visual decision tree device is operated to show a decision or decision tree corresponding to a grade for exudate amount.

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6.   The method of claim 4, wherein the wound classification scheme grades wounds from non-open or closed wounds, to wounds of various thicknesses, to wounds that cannot be graded due to obstructions.

10   7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing an interactive visual scoring sheet on which markers for the available scores for two or more wound factors are displayed; and

marking the appropriate score for the two or more wound factors on the interactive visual scoring sheet,

15   wherein the interactive visual scoring sheet contains a marker associated with one or more of the scores identifying an addition to the treatment protocol.

8.   A method of identifying a wound care protocol for a given wound or wound prevention protocol appropriate for a given patient comprising:

20   classifying the wound or patient against a defined scale for a first wound factor, which is defined wound assessment factor or defined wound risk assessment factor to obtain a wound classification;

grading the wound or patient against defined scales for one or more second wound factors, which are wound assessment factors or wound risk assessment factors;

25   operating visual decision tree device to show the visual decision tree corresponding to the wound classification or to a scale for a wound assessment factor, wherein at least one visual decision tree dictates two or more distinct decisions based on the grade of one or more second wound factors, and wherein the visual decision tree device identifies at least one component of a treatment protocol for the graded wound

30   factors; and

marking a pre-defined display of treatment protocols to identify the components of a treatment protocol identified by the method.

9.   The method of claim 8, wherein the method is operated through a ....
interface on an electronic processor, resulting in a display of treatment protocols that
matches a printed display used in manual operations of the method.

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10.   A visual decision tree device for identifying a wound care protocol for a
given wound or wound prevention protocol appropriate for a given patient comprising:
    a mechanical or electronic device for identifying and displaying one of at
least two decisions or visual decision trees based on one or more inputted wound factors
according to a defined scale,

10   wherein the visual decision tree device identifies at least one component of a
treatment protocol for the graded wound factors.

11.   The visual decision tree device of claim 10 wherein the sliding card
comprises markers corresponding to a defined scale for classifying the wound or patient.

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12.   The visual decision tree device of claim 11 wherein one or more sliding
cards shows a visual decision tree and wherein the housing comprises a view window
through which one or more visual decision trees corresponding to the wound
classification can be viewed.

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